

WIMBORNE MINSTER URBAN  
DISTRICT.

Medical Officer's  
**REPORT**

1938.

Wimborne ;  
Tilsed & Son, Printers, High Street.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urban District Council of Wimborne  
Minster.

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Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual  
Report for the year 1938.

ERIC H. MARKBY,

M.C.H.

## 1. Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health. Part-time. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
Sanitary Inspector. Meat and Food Certificates. Also acts  
as Surveyor.

## 2. Section A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) 653.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1938—  
4054.

Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938) according to  
Rate Books—1335.

Rateable Value—£30,592.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£118.

Social Conditions, including the chief industries carried on in  
the area, and the extent of unemployment:—The chief in-  
dustries are Engineering and Building Trades. There is  
relatively little unemployment actually in the Urban Area,  
the figures are the same as last year.

## Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Totals	M	F	
Live Births, Legitimate	41	23	26	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated
Live Births, Illegitimate	2	—	2	resident population 12·58.
Still Births	1	1	—	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births
				13·07.
Deaths	59			Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated
				resident population 13·39.

Deaths from puerperal causes:

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	—
Other puerperal causes	Nil	—
Total	Nil	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	... Nil
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	Nil
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... 10
„ Measles (all ages)	... Nil
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	... Nil
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	... Nil

At the beginning of the year, mild epidemic of Scarlet Fever.

### 3. Section B. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

#### (a) *Laboratory Facilities.*

Throat Swabs and Slides are sent to the Poole Corporation Laboratory.

#### (b) *Ambulance Facilities.*

In cases of Infectious Diseases, an Ambulance is sent by the Hospital concerned. With regard to non-Infectious cases, the Council has provided an Ambulance and it is maintained and serviced by a local Garage proprietor. This is perfectly satisfactory.

#### (c) *Clinics and Treatment Centres.*

During the year the Wimborne Child Welfare Centre was opened 52 times and the number of attendances were: Infants under one year 1357, over one year 1082, total 2439, average 47. The attendance shows an increase during the year.

#### (d) *Hospitals.*

Cases of Smallpox (if any) are sent to the Baiter Hospital, Poole. Other cases of Infectious Diseases are sent to the Alderney Hospital, Poole. There is also a Cottage Hospital, and an Infirmary for poor people.

### 4. Section. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

#### 1 (i) *Water.*

No extensions of public water supplies were made during the year. The town is supplied by the Bournemouth Gas & Water Company. The supply has been satisfactory in quality and in quantity. There are a few wells. Samples are taken regularly and infected wells condemned. Several houses have had the water laid on and wells discarded.

#### (ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.*

The Main drainage scheme was not commenced during the year, but the Engineers have prepared a Report on the Joint (Cranborne & Wimborne R.D.C.) and Wimborne Minster (U.D.C.) Scheme.



## 2 *Rivers and Streams.*

No action taken pending decision as to the provision of a Sewerage Scheme.

## 3 (i) *Closet Accommodation.*

No conversion on a large scale, all new houses built recently have Water Closets.

No. of Pails at end of 1938	...	1088
No. of Water Closets at end of 1938	...	395

(ii) *Public Cleansing.* No change.

## (iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area.*

No. of Inspections	...	249
No. of Informal Notices	...	31
No. complied with	...	31
No. of Statutory Notices	...	4
No complied with	...	4

## (iv) *Shops.*

Shops are being inspected. No action so far taken.

(v) *Company Siles.* There are none in the area.

(vi) *Smoke Abatement.* No nuisance in the town.

## (vii) *Swimming Pools and Baths.*

There are none in the district, but there is a small Paddling Pool for children, which is cleaned out regularly.

## (viii) *Eradication of Bed Bugs.*

One case of Bed Bugs reported. This House was immediately disinfected by the M.O.H. The disinfectant was Sulphur.

## 4 *Schools.*

The water supply of the Schools in the Urban District is satisfactory, being from the mains of the Bournemouth Gas & Water Co. With regard to sanitation, the Schools are in the same position as the rest of the Urban District—i.e. there is no Main Drainage. The Schools are visited by the M.O.H. as soon as a case of Infectious Disease is notified, and the necessary steps are taken to endeavour to prevent spread of infection.

## 5. Section D. Housing.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—*
  - 1 (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 30
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 50
  - 2 (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under the sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 10
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 16
  - 3 Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... Nil
  - 4 Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 6
2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 20
3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—*
  - (a)—Proceedings under sections 9, 10, 16, of the Housing Act, 1936: ... 2
    - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 2
    - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—
      - (a) By Owners ... 2
      - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil
  - (b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:
    - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 6

- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:
- (a) By Owners ... 6
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil
- (c)—Proceedings under section 11 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 2
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 2
- (d)—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:
- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil
  - (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil
4. *Housing Act, 1936.—Overcrowding:—*
- (a) 1 Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... Nil
  - 2 Number of families dwelling therein ... Nil
  - 3 Number of persons dwelling therein ... Nil
  - (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... Nil
  - (c) 1 Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... Nil
  - 2 Number of persons concerned in such cases ... Nil
  - (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... Nil
  - (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... Nil



## 6. Section E. Inspection and Supervised Food.

### (a) *Milk Supply.*

Inspections made by the County Council.

### (b) *Meat and Other Foods.*

Inspections of Meat, Slaughter Houses, &c., are carried out regularly by the Medical Officer of Health.

#### *Carcases Inspected and Condemned.*

	Cattle exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed ... ..	318	—	69	1255	993
Number inspected ... ..	40	—	20	87	50
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—

### (c) *Adulteration, &c.*

Samples are taken by the County Council.

### (d) *Chemical & Bactearological Examination of Food* By County Council.

### (e) *Nutrition.* By Clinics.

### (f) *Shell Fish (Molluscum).* None in District.

## 7. Section F. Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

There were several cases of Scarlet Fever at beginning of the year. These were all sent to Poole Fever Hospital. The epidemic was abated by isolation and disinfection of the Schools.

With regard to non-notifiable acute infectious diseases, there were several cases of Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken Pox and Influenza brought to my notice during the year. The cases were mild and did not require Hospital treatment.

209 children were immunised against Diphtheria at the end of the year.



### Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	15	15	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Pneumonia	6	0	3
Erysipelas	1	0	0
Ophthalmic Neonatum	1	0	0

(a) *Cancer.*

Slight increase in this area during the year.

No action necessary.

(b) *Prevention of Blindness.* No action necessary.

(c) *Tuberculosis.*

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, or under Section 2 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

### 3. Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Age Periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	..	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
15	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
35	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	...	..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	...		1	—	2	2	—	1	2

### 8. Local and Adopted Acts.

Public Health Acts—Amended Act, 1890, 15th Feb., 1893	
Public Health Acts—Amended Act, 1907, 13th Dec., 1911	
Part 2, Sections 15 to 25 and 27 to 33	do.
Part 3, Sections 34 to 36 and 43 to 51	do.
Part 4, Sections 4, 5, 6, 10	do.
Private Street Works Act, 1892, 17th April, 1893	
Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889, Nov., 1892	
Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890, Nov., 1892	

### 9. Cowsheds.

Number of Persons on Register	...	5
Number of Dairy Farms and other Dairy Premises on Register	...	5
Number of Dairy Farms inspected	...	5
Number of Inspections	...	17
Number of Notices served	...	Nil
Number of Milkshops inspected	...	7
Number of Inspections	...	17
Number of Notices served	...	Nil
Number complied with	...	Nil

### 10. Slaughterhouses.

Registered—3. Satisfactory condition.

### 11. Table of Vital Statistics.

#### Causes of death in Wimborne Minster U.D.

All Causes: Male 22; Female 37

	M	F
Typhoid Fever, etc.	0	0
Measles	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Influenza	0	0
Encephalitis lethargica	0	0
Cerebro-spinal fever	0	1
Respiratory tuberculosis	0	1
Other tuberculosis	0	1
Syphilis	0	0

						M	F
Gen. paralysis of insane, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	6	4
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Cerebral hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	0	3
Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other circulatory	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	0	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Other respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other liver diseases	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other digestive	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other puerperal	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Congenital causes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	4	7
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other defined causes	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Ill-defined causes	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Special causes	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year:

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Live Births: Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	23	28
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
Still-births: Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Resident Population—4,054							

### **List of Certified Midwives.**

The following is a list of Midwives practising in the District:—

Kathleen Baker	Cottage Hospital, Wimborne
Sofia Magdalene Colombos	The Infirmary, Wimborne
Dorothy Grace Heath	Victoria Cottage Hosp., Wimborne
Annie Maud Hodder	9, Gaunts, Wimborne
Phyllis Irene Rabbitts	Victoria Cottage Hosp., Wimborne
Edith Helen Smith	21, West Boro', Wimborne
Mary Alfreda Wheeler	Alwyn, Leigh Road, Wimborne



England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns  
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
<b>Births —</b>				
Live ... ..	15·1	15·0	15·4	13·4
Still ... ..	0·60	0·65	0·60	0·48
<b>Deaths—</b>				
All Causes ... ..	11·6	11·7	11·0	11·4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid } Fever ... ..	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Smallpox ... ..	0·00		0·00	—
Measles ... ..	0·04	0·05	0·03	0·06
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Whooping Cough ... ..	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·03
Diphtheria ... ..	0·07	0·07	0·06	0·05
Influenza ... ..	0·11	0·10	0·11	0·06
<b>Notifications—</b>				
Smallpox ... ..	0·00	0·00	0·00	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2·41	2·60	2·58	2·05
Diphtheria ... ..	1·58	1·85	1·53	1·90
Enteric Fever ... ..	0·03	0·03	0·04	0·05
Erysipelas ... ..	0·40	0·46	0·39	0·46
Pneumonia ... ..	1·10	1·28	0·98	0·98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age ... ..	5·3	5·7	5·1	5·7
Deaths from Diarrhoea and } Enteritis under 2 yrs. of age } ... ..	5·5	7·8	3·6	13·1
<b>Maternal Mortality —</b>				
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0·89	Not available		
Others ... ..	2·19			
Total ... ..	3·08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live & Still)				
<b>Maternal Mortality—</b>				
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0·86	Not available		
Others ... ..	2·11			
Total ... ..	2·97			
<b>Notifications—</b>				
Puerperal Fever ... ..	14·42	18·08	12·51	3·53
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..				15·46





